

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): A thermoelectric heat pump module comprising:

a plurality of spaced thermoelectric elements, the thermoelectric elements ~~including~~ comprising first ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive cold-side connectors, the thermoelectric elements ~~including~~ comprising second opposite ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive hot-side connector sinks ~~including~~ comprising extended, spaced heat exchange portions forming a hot sink array, the cold-side connectors connected directly to and supported by a rigid, unitary cold sink, further ~~including~~ comprising potting material extending from the cold sink to a point beyond the cold-side connectors, the potting material sealing and supporting the first ends of the thermoelectric elements and the cold-side connectors, wherein the cold-side connectors are connected to a support surface of the cold sink whose area is greater than an area bounded by the thermoelectric elements, and wherein the potting material is built up from the support surface around the cold-sink supported cold-side connectors to form an additional support for the thermoelectric elements and connectors.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The thermoelectric module of claim 4, further ~~including~~ comprising a potting guide supported on the support surface of the cold sink and surrounding side surfaces of the potting material.

Claims 6-10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): The thermoelectric module of claim 4, wherein a potting guide is supported on the support surface of the cold sink surrounding the potting material, the potting guide ~~including~~ comprising a raised potting support surface located above the TE elements and supporting a layer of potting material.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A thermoelectric heat pump module comprising:

a plurality of spaced thermoelectric elements, the thermoelectric elements ~~including~~ comprising first ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive cold-side connectors, the thermoelectric elements ~~including~~ comprising second opposite ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive hot-side connector sinks ~~including~~ comprising extended, spaced heat exchange portions forming a hot sink array, the cold-side connectors connected directly to and supported by a rigid, unitary cold sink wherein the thermoelectric elements and their connector sinks are arranged in an elongated array of rows on the cold sink, the rows having a length greater than a width of the array.

Claim 13 (original): The thermoelectric module of claim 12, wherein the elongated array is rectangular.

Claim 14 (original): The thermoelectric module of claim 12, wherein the extended heat exchange portions of the connector sinks are parallel to one another.

Claim 15 (original): The thermoelectric module of claim 14, wherein the extended heat exchange portions in one row are aligned with the extended heat exchange portions in an adjacent row.

Claim 16 (original): The thermoelectric module of claim 14, wherein the extended heat exchange portions comprise fin members.

Claim 17 (original): The thermoelectric module of claim 16, wherein the extended heat exchange portions comprise planar fin members.

18. (currently amended) ~~The thermoelectric module of claim 1,~~ A thermoelectric heat pump module comprising:

a plurality of spaced thermoelectric elements, the thermoelectric elements comprising first ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive cold-side connectors, the thermoelectric elements comprising second opposite ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive hot-side connector sinks comprising extended, spaced heat exchange portions forming a hot sink array, the cold-side connectors connected directly to and supported by a rigid, unitary cold sink, wherein free ends of the hot sink array are connected by an electrically insulative cover.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A thermoelectric heat pump assembly for small cooling appliances, comprising:

a fan for generating a flow of cooling air;

a thermoelectric heat pump module comprising a plurality of spaced thermoelectric elements, the thermoelectric elements ~~having~~ comprising first ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive cold-side connectors, the thermoelectric elements ~~having~~ comprising second opposite ends connected in pairs by electrically and thermally conductive hot-side connector sinks ~~having~~ comprising extended, spaced heat exchange portions ~~forming~~ comprising a hot sink array, the cold-side connectors connected directly to and supported by a rigid, unitary cold sink, the thermoelectric elements and their connector sinks arranged in an elongated array of rows on the cold sink, the rows having a length greater than a width of the array;

the heat pump module being arranged relative to the fan to receive the flow of cooling air perpendicular to the elongated hot sink array.

Claim 20 (original): The thermoelectric heat pump assembly of claim 19, wherein a second thermoelectric heat pump module is arranged relative to the fan to receive the flow of cooling air in a perpendicular fashion.

Claim 21 (original): The thermoelectric heat pump assembly of claim 19, wherein one or more heat pump modules are arranged surrounding the fan.

Claim 22 (canceled)